

CLAIMS:

1. A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user comprising or including:
a patient interface, adapted to be in fluid communication with said supply of gases and
said user in at least a correct orientation and position on said user,
5 headgear adapted to attach to or around the head of said user, and
a sliding connection between said headgear and said patient interface.
2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a nasal mask.
3. A device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said nasal mask comprises or includes a body
portion having an inlet receiving said supply of gases, and sealing means attached to or
10 integrated with said body portion said sealing means adapted to seal against the facial
contours of said user.
4. A device as claimed in claim 3 where said sliding connection adapted to allow said
headgear substantial movement with respect to said nasal mask, while still providing
compressive force on said sealing means to ensure said supply of gases is delivered to said
15 user without significant leakage.
5. A device as claimed in anyone of claims 1 to 4 wherein said headgear comprises or
includes a member engaged thereto, said engagement between said headgear and said member
adapted to allow temporary release therefrom.
6. A device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said member is elongate having a first end and
20 a second end, a first at least partial loop located at said first end and a second at least partial
loop located at said second end, whereby in use said headgear is substantially permanently
attached to said first loop and substantially attached but readily releasable from said second
loop.
7. A device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said patient interface further comprises or
25 includes at least one restraining means on said body portion, in use said member is restrained

in at least one axis by, but which can slide easily within at least one other dimension, said restraining means and can be easily disengaged therewith.

8. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a nasal cannula.

9. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a full face mask.

5 10. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a mouthpiece.

11. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is an entotracheal tube.

12. A device as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 11 wherein said headgear includes a low resistance sliding strap slidingly connected on, through, adjacent or with said patient interface.

10 13. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein said sliding strap is moulded from polyacetal.

14. A device as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 11 wherein said headgear includes a low resistance sliding loop slidingly connected on, through, adjacent or with said patient interface.

15 15. A device as claimed in claim 14 wherein said sliding loop comprises a looped nylon filament.

16. A nasal mask for delivering gases to a user comprising or including:
a body portion having an inlet, in use said inlet receiving a supply of gases,
abutting means engaged with said body portion for abutting against the facial contours
of said user, and

20 engaging means for providing a sliding engagement with a means of securement to a user, and a compressive force on said abutting means.

17. A nasal mask as claimed in claim 16 wherein said engaging means comprises or includes restraining means, said restraining means adapted to in use accommodate an elongate member, said restraining means adapted to in use restrain said member in at least one dimension, but allow said member to slide easily within at least one other dimension,
5 and providing a compressive force on said abutting means, said restraining means adapted to in use easily disengage with said member.

18. In a CPAP system for delivering gases to a user comprising or including a pressurised source of gases, a conduit in fluid communication with said pressurised source adapted to convey said gases, a patient interface in fluid communication with said conduit in use
10 delivering said gases to said user, and headgear attaching said interface with said user the improvement comprising that said patient interface adapted to slidingly engage with said headgear.

19. In a CPAP system as claimed in Claim 18 the improvement further comprising that said system further comprises a humidifier to variably humidify said gases.

15 20. A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user comprising or including:
a patient interface, adapted to be in fluid communication with said supply of gases and said user in at least a correct orientation and position on said user, and
headgear including at least a partial loop adapted to pass across the face of said user.

21. A device as claimed in claim 20 wherein said loop adapted to pass over and slidingly
20 engage with said interface.

22. A device as claimed in claim 20 wherein said loop adapted to pass at least partially through and slidingly engage with said interface.

23. A device as claimed in claim 20 wherein said loop slides in use with respect to said headgear.